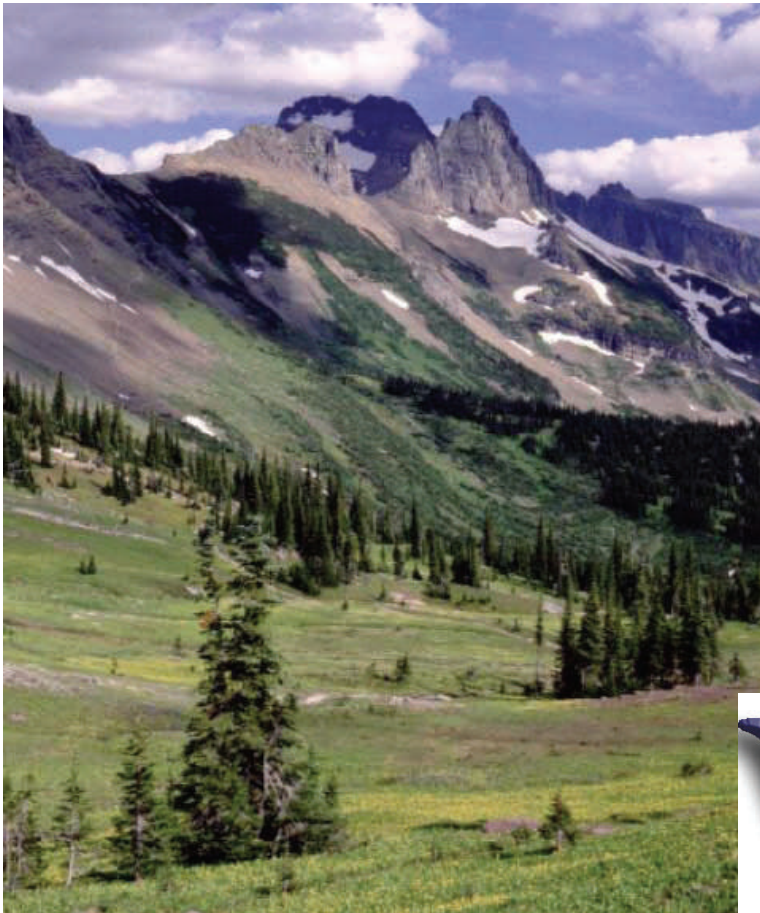


Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation



Annual Report
2007



IDVR is a unique agency that helps individuals with disabilities take their place in the work force and in the community.

This report shares the stories of nine consumers who have benefited from our services as well as from the partnerships that IDVR has developed with other agencies and organizations.

But most of all, you will see the fruits of labor from a very dedicated and committed staff.

Robert Lynch
Real Estate Agent
Region 1 – Coeur d'Alene

Robert Lynch worked for several years as a Firefighter and then as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). In 2002, while responding to an emergency, Rob was injured trying to prevent a gentlemen from falling. As a result of this, Rob developed degeneration of a cervical intervertebral disc and thoracic outlet syndrome, leaving him with functional limitations of the hands and shoulders. With the help of VR, Rob was able to attend school and began working as a Real Estate Agent for Keller Williams in May of 2006. Rob has had a very successful year and has moved more than 13 units in his first year. Rob is enjoying his work immensely.



Barbara Pierce
Director of Security – Lewis-Clark State College
Region 2 – Lewiston

Barbara Pierce came to VR in January 2002. She was referred by the One Stop Center due to her profound hearing loss and requested assistance with the purchase of hearing aids. Through support from her VR Counselor, Barb pursued a Bachelor of Applied Technology Degree in Information Systems Analysis from Lewis-Clark State College. VR assisted Barb with tuition, books, tools, hearing aids and temporary maintenance during her academic training program. Barb is now the Director of Security at Lewis-Clark State College. Barb supervises two

full time and nine part-time employees. Barb has always been appreciative of the help and support she received from VR staff.

David Redler
Owner/Operator of Dave's Perennials
Region 3 – Treasure Valley

Dave Redler was initially referred to VR by Reg. III MH in 2003, due to a Mental Health Diagnosis. He was placed into employment, but as a result of his severe depressive symptoms, Dave lost that job in May 2005. He re-applied for IDVR services in August of 2005. Since the only source of therapeutic intervention that proved effective was his love for plants, Dave and VR, in partnership with Region III Mental Health, decided to pursue self-employment as a Perennial wholesaler. Dave is now the owner/operator of Dave's Perennials. Dave has expressed his thanks and appreciation repeatedly for IDVR assistance. Dave says "this is the first time in my life that I have been able to find real hope for my future".





Phil Wert
Maintenance Worker/Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Region IV- Twin Falls

Phil was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis 15 years ago. At that time he was forced to leave his life-long employment as a rancher to work for the Facilities Maintenance Group for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Phil's employment continued without difficulty until the fall of 2005 when Phil began to experience additional MS symptoms. Phil came to VR to request assistance with the purchase of an ATV 4-wheeler to accommodate his physical restrictions. The cost was shared between VR, his family and the M.S. Society. VR provided Phil with additional counseling and guidance as needed. He loves his job and his supervisor is pleased to be able to have him continue his employment. He states: "VR has been wonderful, helpful and great to work with. They have done a great justice for me. I continue to work because of them."

Susan Anderson
Counselor - Still Waters Counseling
Region 5 - Pocatello

Susan Anderson came to the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in May of 2001. She had been previously employed, but due to chronic depression as a result of Hypothyroidism, had taken a medical leave of absence and eventually quit her job. She applied for Social Security Disability and was denied. Not sure where to turn for assistance, she went to a career counselor who referred her to VR. With tuition assistance from VR, Pell Grants, scholarship awards, assistance with books and transportation, Susan enrolled at Idaho State University where she recently completed her degree with a noteworthy 3.6 GPA. Susan plans to obtain a Master's Degree in Social Work and currently works for Still Waters Counseling in Blackfoot.



Emily Malcom
Lobby Attendant -Kentucky Fried Chicken
Region 6 - Idaho Falls



While in high school, Emily Malcom participated in pre-vocational training in the production area at Development Workshop and began working with Vocational Rehabilitation. With assistance from VR, she found employment shredding documents at a TV station. However, over the next two years, her hours at work were reduced significantly and she decided to find a new job. Emily and her VR counselor identified a list of jobs she might be able to perform. Emily completed a work evaluation, and was hired for a position at Kentucky Fried Chicken where her duties include keeping the lobby floors and tables clean, restocking napkins, straws, and other supplies. Job modifications enabled Emily to successfully manager her job assignments. Emily's earnings reduce her dependence on Social Security benefits, and the work experience she is gaining will help her become more independent in the future.

Dee Pyle
Radio Repairman-National Interagency Fire Center
Region 7 - Caldwell

In 1984, Dee Pyle was injured when a tree fell on him and he suffered a spinal cord injury. Over the next 5 years, Dee was in rehab, completed his GED, and earned an Associate's Degree in Electronics Technology from ITT. In 1989, Dee



started working for the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) repairing radios and other electronic equipment. In 2003, Dee began to develop pressure ulcers because his wheelchair was ill-fitting and he had developed bilateral shoulder arthritis from using a manual wheelchair. His physician advised the use of an electric wheelchair and transfer limits from the wheelchair to vehicle driver's seat in his van. Dee was referred to IDVR in April 2005. Dee wanted to maintain his employment at NIFC as he was nearing retirement and continued to be the sole provider for his family. IDVR coordinated services through the Federal Worker's Compensation Program that insured provision of ongoing rehabilitation technology needs. As a result of this coordination, Dee has received a new electric wheelchair and new modified van paid entirely by the Federal Worker's Compensation program. This has enabled Dee to maintain his employment at NIFC.

Traci Hopper
Administrative Assistant – Garden City Community School
Region 8 – Boise

In March 2005, Traci Hopper applied for services a second time with Vocational Rehabilitation. In 1995, Traci was involved in a motor vehicle accident that left her a paraplegic. Since that time, she had had multiple surgeries and complications. To further complicate matters, Traci had a history of depression and continued substance abuse. Early on it was determined that Traci did not have the basic daily living skills necessary to complete any form of training program or work task. The VR Counselor referred Traci to programs (utilizing her Medicaid card) to work on areas that would provide the basic foundation for her rehabilitation program. Extensive vocational guidance and counseling opened doors to Traci and provided her with valuable information she needed to identify an attainable work goal. Working with VR she was able to address issues of training, transportation and child care. Traci was hired by Garden City Community School, as a full time Administrative Assistant in a salaried position with benefits available.



Jesse Delgado
Auto Body Repairman – Peterbuilt Truck Company
Region 9 - Treasure Valley Corrections

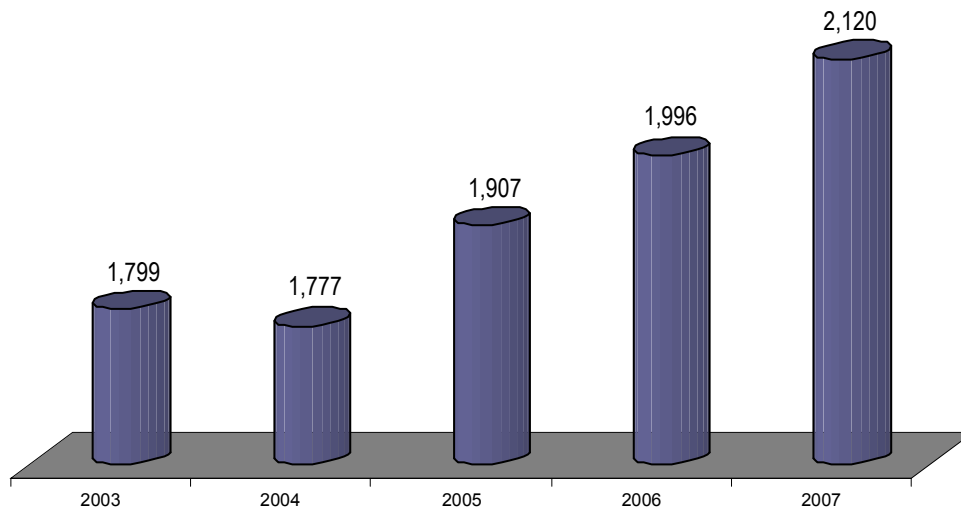


Jesse Delgado's case manager at the Boise Community Work Center referred him to VR for assistance in transitioning back to the community and workforce. Jesse's employment history prior to his incarceration had been limited to unskilled work as a general laborer and painter's helper. The goal of Auto Body Repair was identified. Rehabilitation services included vocational counseling/guidance, community based work adjustment, personal/vocational adjustment counseling, medication monitoring, par-

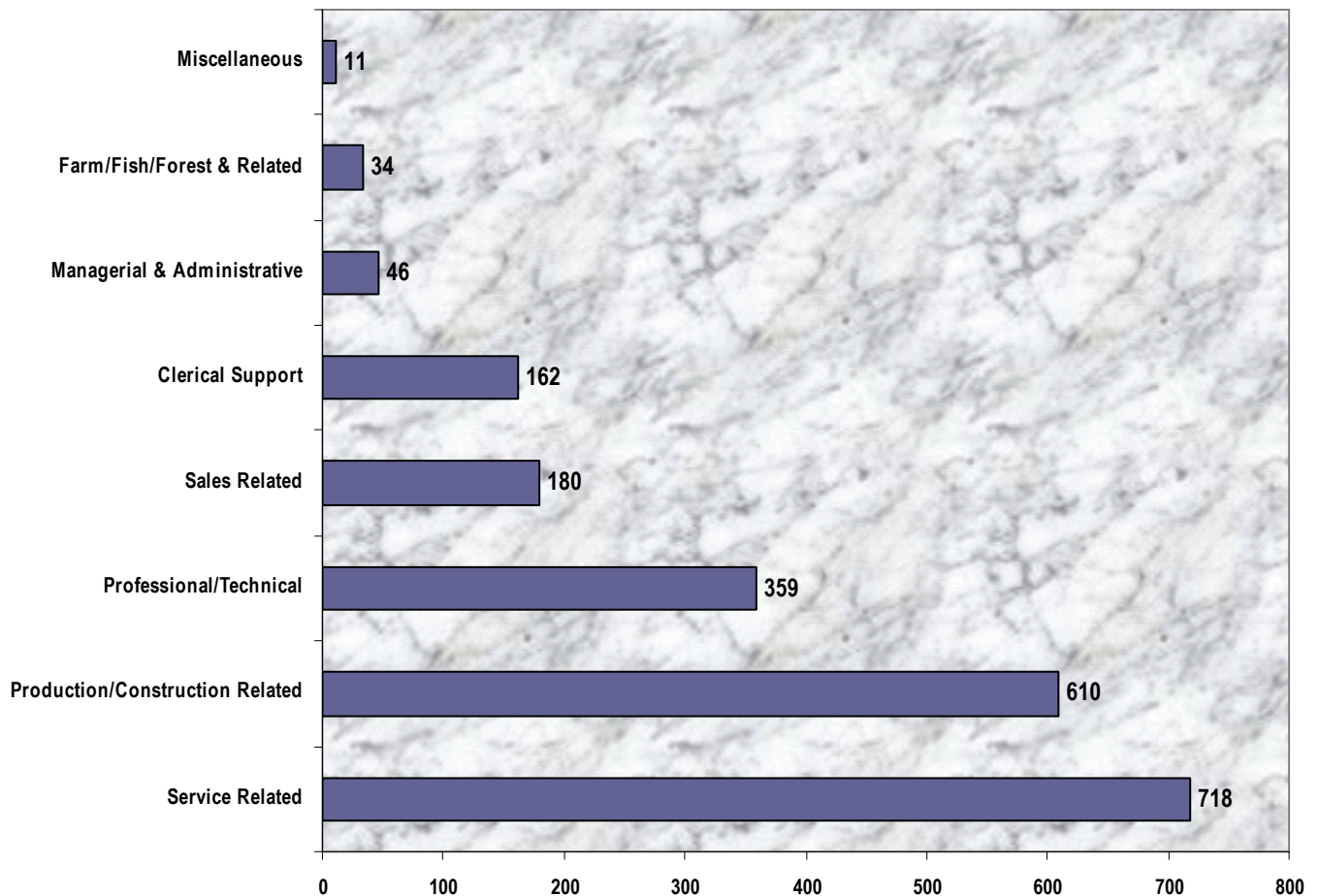
ticipation in relapse prevention programming, substance abuse counseling and placement/follow along services. In addition to these primary services, VR also assisted Jesse with many essential support services such as clothing, transportation and tools. Jesse persevered in maintaining a positive attitude and in his commitment to a drug free lifestyle, and continues to remain employed as a body repair specialist with Peterbuilt Truck Company of Boise. The employer has expressed his appreciation for his work & accomplishments.

VR Facts

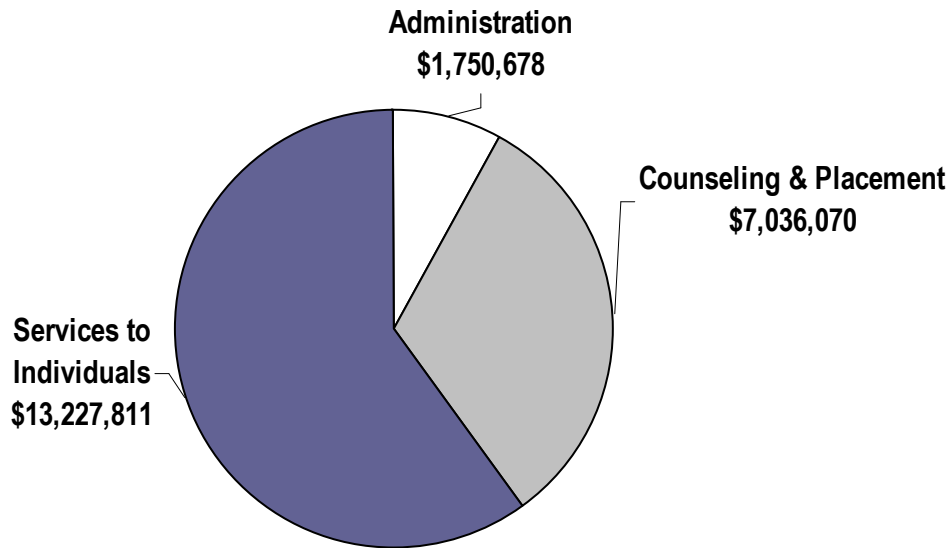
Idahoans Who Joined the Workforce after Rehabilitation Services



Occupations of the 2,120 Individuals Who Went to Work



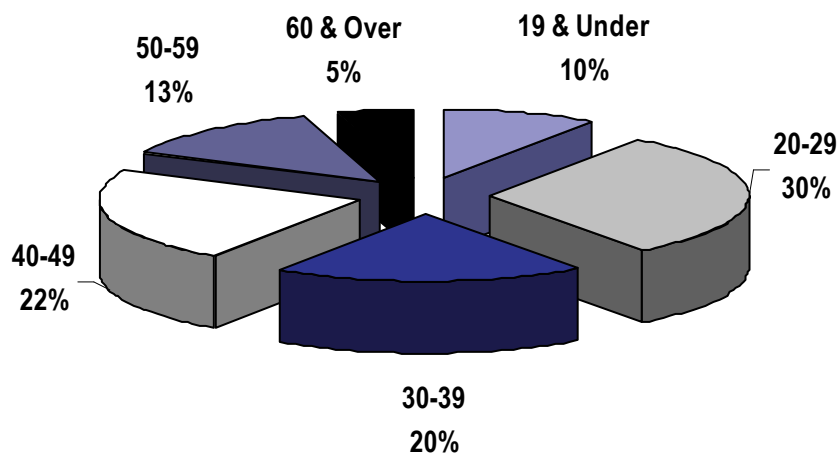
Utilization of Client Service Dollars



Economic Impact after Rehabilitation Services

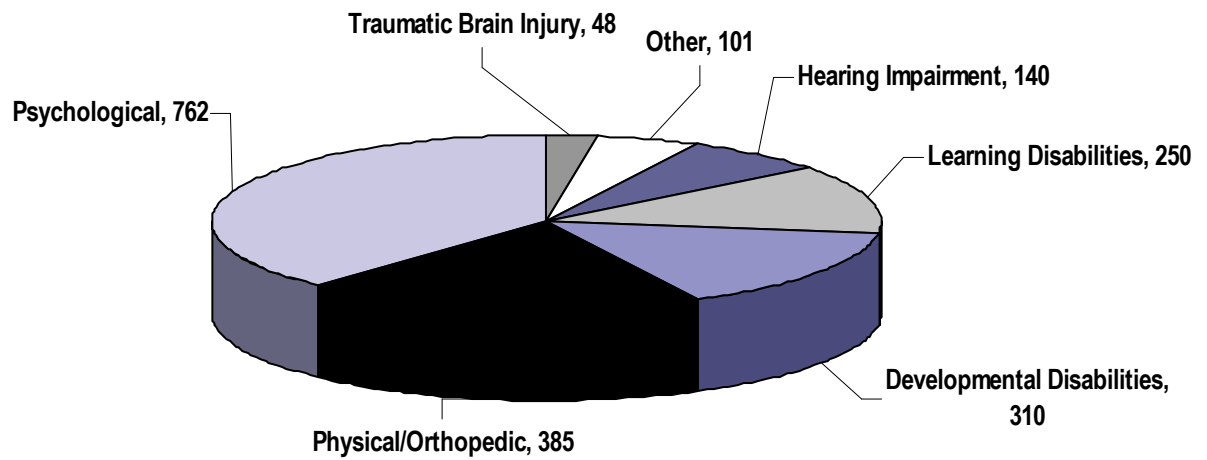
Average Client Weekly Earnings	At Time of Referral	At Time of Closure	% of Increase
Rehabilitated	81.97	327.88	300%
Rehabilitated with Significant Disabilities	81.83	327.33	300%

Age of the 2,120 VR Clients Who Went to Work



For every \$1 spent on Vocational Rehabilitation services, \$3.33 is returned to the economy through increased taxes on earnings and reduced public assistance payments to individuals rehabilitated.

Disabilities of the 2,120 Individuals Who Went to Work



Ethnicity of Those Who Went to Work Compared to 2000 Census

Ethnicity	2007 VR Closures	2000 Census
African American	1%	.6%
American Indian	2.4%	1.4%
Asian	.8%	1%
Hispanic	8.3%	9.1%
Pacific Islander	.4%	.1%
White	89%	87%

Idahoans Who Were Served by Vocational Rehabilitation

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
12,959	13,438	13,191	12,874	12,612

For more information about the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation please visit <http://www.vr.idaho.gov/> or you may contact us at: (208) 334-3390